

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-10 and 12-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 7 and 20 are being amended to cosmetically improve the claims without affecting the scope of the claims; and thus, the scope of the doctrine of equivalents applied to the claim should not be limited under the rules of Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 535 U.S. 722, 2002 Lexis 3818 (May 28, 2002).

Claims 21-57 are being canceled and claims 58-85 are being added. These new claims are fully supported by the originally filed Specification and original claims, and add no new matter.

Entry of the amendments, new claims and reconsideration of the present case is thus respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Parkhe et al. (U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0047283).

Applicant has submitted a declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 traversing the rejection, because the invention that was disclosed but not claimed in the cited reference, Parkhe et al., was derived by the joint inventors of this application and is thus not an invention by "another." Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

2. The Examiner rejected claims 12-14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Boyd et al. (U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2004/0055709).

Applicant has submitted a declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 traversing the rejection, because the invention that was disclosed but not claimed in the cited reference, Boyd et al., was derived by the joint inventors of this application and is thus not an invention by "another." Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.


Claim Objections - Formalities

The Examiner objected to claims 9, 15-16 and 18-20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The rejections of the independent claims from which claims 9, 15-16 and 18-20 depend respectively, are being traversed and a declaration is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 to overcome such rejections. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection to these claims.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the above remarks, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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